

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-25

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5694

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: GATT ETRD EEC

SUBJ: MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS -- ISSUES FOR TOKYO

REF: A. GENEVA 4731; B. EC BRUSSELS 4759; C. GENEVA 3982

1. SUMMARY. EC COMMISSION OFFICIALS HIJZEN AND PHAN VAN PHI DO NOT EXPECT THE COMMUNITY TO RAISE ANY NEW ISSUES AT TOKYO; BELIEVE THAT MUCH OF THE IMPORTANT DISCUSSIONS WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE CORRIDORS; CONSIDER THAT SETTling THE LANGUAGE ON THE TRADE-MONETARY ISSUE MAY STILL BE DIFFICULT ALTHOUGH THE ATMOSPHERE SURROUNDING THIS MATTER IS MUCH IMPROVED SINCE THE PREPCOM; AND APPEAR QUITE NEGATIVE ABOUT ANY MORE CONCESSIONS TO LCDS. THEY ALSO PERSONALLY OPPOSE UNCTAD OR OTHER INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIATS AS OBSERVERS IN TNC. WE EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR THE COMMUNITY TO TAKE SOME OF THE HEAT WITH THE LDCS--INCLUDING
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UNCTAD--IF, IN FACT, THE EC FEELS AS STRONGLY AS

HIJZEN AND PHAN VAN PHI SUGGEST. END SUMMARY.

2. ON SEPTEMBER 3 WE REVIEWED WITH JIJZEN AND PHAN VAN PHI THE POTLOOK FOR TOKYO. BOTH WILL ATTEND AS MEMBERS OF THE EC COMMISSION DELEGATION (REFTEL B). JIJZEN EMPHASIZED THAT HIS COMMENTS WERE PERSONAL SINCE (A) SOAMES AND GUNDELACH WILL HEAD THE COMMISSION'S DELEGATION AND (B) THE GATT MINISTERIAL SESSION WILL BE PRECEDED BY AN EC COUNCIL MEETING IN TOKYO TO ASSURE FINAL COORDINATION OF THE COMMUNITY'S POSITION. IN GENERAL, HIJZEN SEEMED RELAXED ABOUT THE MEETING. HE THOUGHT IT UNLIKELY IN THE EXTREME THAT THE COMMUNITY WOULD RAISE ANY NEW ISSUES. IF OTHER COUNTRIES RAISED NEW ISSUES, HOWEVER, OR TRIED TO FORCE INTERPRETATIONS OF THE PREPCOM DRAFT, THE COMMUNITY WOULD RESPOND.

3. HIJZEN THOUGHT THAT SOME IF NOT ALL OF THE NINE EC MEMBER STATE MINISTERS, WOULD MAKE BRIEF STATEMENTS SINCE ONE COULD NOT EXPECT PEOPLE LIKE GISCARD AND FRIDERICH TO TRAVEL TO TOKYO JUST TO LISTEN TO SPEECHES BY THE DANISH EC COUNCIL REP AND SOAMES. HOWEVER, THE MEMBER STATES WOULD BE BOUND BY THE AGREED COMMUNITY POSITION. THUS, MOST OF THE SIGNIFICANT EXCHANGES WERE LIKELY TO TAKE PLACE IN THE CORRIDOR. HIJZEN THOUGHT SUCH EXCHANGES MIGHT INCLUDE, FOR EXAMPLE, PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION OF HOW THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE MIGHT ORGANIZE ITS WORK. (HE EXPECTS SPECIFICS FOR TNC OPERATIONS TO BE WORKED OUT LATER IN GENEVA, HOWEVER.)

4. HIJZEN AND PHAN VAN PHI SAID THAT THE COMMUNITY WOULD, OF COURSE, BE KEENLY INTERESTED IN THE OUTLOOK FOR PASSAGE OF THE US TRADE BILL, BUT IF WOULD STICK WITH THE CAREFULLY-NEGOTIATED LANGUAGE IN PARAGRAPH ONE OF THE PRECOM'S DRAFT DECLARATION (REFTEL C). THERE MIGHT BE QUESTIONS ABOUT HOW TO INTERPRET THIS LANGUAGE BUT THESE WOULD PRESUMABLY COME LATER.

5. HIJZEN AND PHAN VAN PHI SHARE THE GENERAL EXPECTATION THAT THE TWO MAJOR ISSUES TO BE SETTLED AT TOKYO ARE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE LANGUAGE ON THE MONEARY-TRADE RELATIONSHIP AND THE DESIRE OF THE UNCTAD AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIATS TO BE REPRESENTED IN THE TNC. ON THE TRADE-MONETARY QUESTION, HIJZEN THOUGHT ONE SHOULD NOT UNDERESTIMATE THE POSSIBLE DIFFICULTY THAT REMAINS IN FINDING AN AGREED FORMULATION. HE THOUGHT, HOWEVER, THAT THIS TASK HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLY EASED BY THE RESULTS OF THE LAST C-20 DEPUTIES MEETING,

THE CALM ON THE EXCHANGE MARKTETS, AND THE EXPECTATIONS
OF A HARMONIOUS SESSION AT NAIROBI.

6. ON THE UNCTAD QUESTION, PHAN VAN PHI ARGUED
STRONGLY THAT IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE TO OPEN THE TNC
TO PARTICIPATION BY INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIATS. WAYS
COULD BE FOUND TO KEEP PEREZ-GUERRERO, THE OECD, THE
AOU, ETC., INFORMED WITHOUT CLUTTERING UP THE GATT
NEGOTIATIONS. WE SAID THAT THE US CERTAINLY SHARED
THE COMMISSION'S VIEW AS TO THE OBJECTIVE. ON THE
OTHER HAND, THERE WERE PROBLEMS OF APPEARANCES AND
PRESTIGE THAT MIGHT REQUIRE CAREFUL HANDLING. WE ALSO
TOLD HIJZEN AND PHAN VAN PHI THA IT WOULD BE HELPFUL,
IF THE COMMUNITY FEELS AS STRONGLY AS IT APPARENTLY
DOES, FOR THE EC TO TAKE SOME OF THE HEAT WITH THE LDCS
AND WITH UNCTAD. ALTHOUGH WE HAD NOT BEEN PRESENT
AT THE PREPCOM, WE HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT THE EC
HAD ON OCCASION LEFT IT TO US TO DO THE DIRTY
WORK SO THAT IT COULD POSE AS THE MEDITOR BETWEEN
THE DCS AND LDCS.

7. APART FROM THE QUESION OF PARTICIPATION BY
INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIATS, HIJZEN RECOGNIZED SOME
OF THE LDCS MIGHT TRY TO RE-OPEN SUBSTANTIVE POINTS
IN THE DRAFT DECLARATION. BUT HE DID NOT EXPECT
THAT SUCH EFFORTS WOULD CAUSE MAJOR DIFFICULTIES
OR HAVE MUCH CHANCE OF SUCCESS.HARTMAN

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